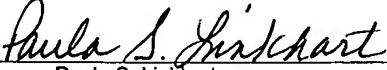


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IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 JAN 2006

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<div style="text-align: center;"> Paula S. Linkhart</div>	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Samuel T. BUTTRAM

Michael M. LOHUIS

Youping GU

Christina M. WAGNER

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§ Group Art Unit:

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§ Examiner:

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§ Atty. Dkt. No.: **11916.0057.PCUS01**

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Serial No.:

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Filed: **January 23, 2006**

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For: **METHOD FOR GENETIC
IMPROVEMENT OF TERMINAL
BOARS**

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§371 Application of International Application
PCT/US2004/024168, filed 26 July 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PRIORITY CLAIM

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the specification prior to examination of this application on the merits.